REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, re-examination and reconsideration of the subject matter identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.112, and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

Claims 39-47, 52-54, 56-63 and 66-76 are currently pending in this application. Claims 39-47, 52-54, 56-63, 69, 71 and 72 have been allowed.

Claims 66-68, 70 and 73-76 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for the reasons set forth in paragraphs (1), (2) and (4) of the Office Action. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and for at least the reasons which follow.

Claim 66 has been amended to correct the formula for X_1 in the line following formula II (line 7). Thus, the definition of X_1 is the same throughout claim 66, i.e., $-R'(-N=C=O)_p$.

Claim 70 has been amended to clarify the last five lines of the claim. Also, the formula CONX₁H has been corrected.

Claims 73-75 have been amended to delete "polyisocyanate" since that terminology is not present in claim 66. Applicants confirm that the claims, where applicable, encompass compositions free of isocyanate groups.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the §112 rejection has been obviated and should be withdrawn.

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order and such action is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the

Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (703) 838-6683 at his earliest convenience.

By:

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: April 9, 2004

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